GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:481
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
UNUTILISED RAILWAY LAND IN WEST BENGAL
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of unutilised railway land in West Bengal as on date;

(b) the area out of above which has been encroached as on date;

(c) the steps taken to get the encroachments removed and to make best use of this land; and

(d) the time by which it is to be utilised even as green belt near railway tracks?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) & (b): Some area of land is lying vacant, and some of it is under encroachments. However, data on unutilised land, area under encroachments is maintained Railway Zone-wise, and not State-wise.

(c) & (d): Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove encroachments from their land as per provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants)Act, 1971, and the Railways Act, 1989. Railway land wherever vacant is required for their future development. Utilisation of such land either for Railway projects, or for development of green belt near tracks, is a continuous exercise. Railway land along tracks are given for cultivation to Railway employees, afforestation etc. and major stretches are kept for Borrow pits, Railway material movements etc. and hence land near Railway tracks cannot be identified fully for Green belt.